

S-252

c. 1890-1910

Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church
Rehobeth vicinity
public worship

The Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church stands at the intersection of Cornstack and Bryan Hall roads near Rehobeth. The tee-shaped Gothic Revival church is similar to many in Somerset County with its corner entrance tower and tripartite colored glass windows. Located north of the church is the cemetery. One ^{graveyard} plot is surrounded by a Victorian iron fence made by Stewart Iron Works of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Although the written history of many black churches is rather sketchy, the background of Frogeye Church is slightly more complete. ^{The} Frogeye Methodist ^{church} was organized by the white residents of the Rehobeth vicinity in 1830, and it continued as such until 1876 when the white congregation sold the structure to the black residents of the area. Meanwhile, a new Methodist church, first known as "Davis Chapel," was built in 1876 closer to Rehobeth on the Shelltown Road. Apparently the black residents used the old church until the late nineteenth century when they erected the present building.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. S-252

Magi No. 2002525708

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church

and/or common Ebenezer Church

2. Location

street & number Intersection of Cornstack and Bryan Hall Roads ☐ not for publicationcity, town Rehobeth ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Somerset

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Trustees of Frogeye M.E. Church

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Rehobeth state and zip code Maryland 21853

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Somerset County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Somerset County Courthouse folio

city, town Princess Anne state Maryland 21853

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No.

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Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Frogeye Methodist Episcopal Church stands on the east side of Cornstack Road at the intersection of Bryan Hall Road, near Rehobeth, Somerset County, Maryland. The T-shaped frame structure faces west with the primary gable running on an east/west axis. Accompanying the church is a two-story fellowship hall and a large cemetery.

The late 19th-century frame church rests on a brick pier foundation and is uniformly sheathed with asbestos shingles. The steeply pitched roof is covered with asphalt shingles, while the eaves extend beyond the wall surfaces. A plain bargeboard covers the ends of rafter feet and roof nailers. Rising in the south-west corner is a three-story pyramidal roofed entrance tower. A double door entry is topped by a pointed arch, colored glass transom. The mid-level is marked by a diamond pane colored glass light. At the second story the tower tapers in slightly, and the cornice is interrupted by small gables covered with fishscale shingles. The tower is covered with wood shingles and appears to have been capped.

The west elevation of the sanctuary is distinguished by a tri-partite colored glass window. Located to the north is a shed roof extension marked by a narrow lancet window.

The north elevation has a large gabled roof that covers the altar, centered in the wall is a round window divided into pie-shaped panes. To the west is a narrow lancet window and to the east a recent shed addition. Two narrow brick stove stacks rise from the north slope of the roof.

The east facade of the church has an identical tri-partite window. Extending southward is the leg of the "T", which is pierced on the east side by a narrow lancet window. A rear entrance is located in the southeast corner of the main church body.

The south elevation of the "T" has an identical tri-partite window.

The interior of the church was not open.

Located to the east of the church is a two-story one-bay by three-bay fellowship hall evidently erected about the same time as the church. It is also covered with asbestos shingles and capped by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. A narrow brick stove stack rises from the east gable end.

The west (main) facade has a center door and an adjacent 6/6 sash window. A single 6/6 sash window lights the second and attic floors. Attached to the north side of the hall is a single-story flat-roofed addition.

The cemetery is located on the north side of the property and consists of several dozen 19th and 20th-century markers. One plot is surrounded by a Victorian iron fence made by Stewart Iron Works in Cincinnati, Ohio.

8. Significance

Survey No. S-252

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Frogeye M.E. Church is an altered late 19th-century frame church built in a similar manner as other black churches in rural Somerset County. The "T" or "L" plan with corner tower was popularly employed through the fourth quarter of the 19th century and first quarter of the 20th century. The tri-partite sanctuary window is a common feature in many other churches.

History and Support

The written history of many black churches is rather scarce, but the history of Frogeye M.E. is slightly more complete. Frogeye Methodist was organized by the white residents of the Rehobeth vicinity in 1830, and it continued as such until 1876 when the white congregation sold the structure to the black residents of the area. Meanwhile, a new Methodist church, first known as "Davis Chapel" was built in 1876 closer to Rehobeth on the Shelltown Road. Apparently, the black residents used the old church until the late 19th century when they erected the present building.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. S-252

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul Touart - Architectural Historian

organization Somerset County Historical Trust

date 4/17/85

street & number 424 North Somerset Avenue

telephone 651-0077

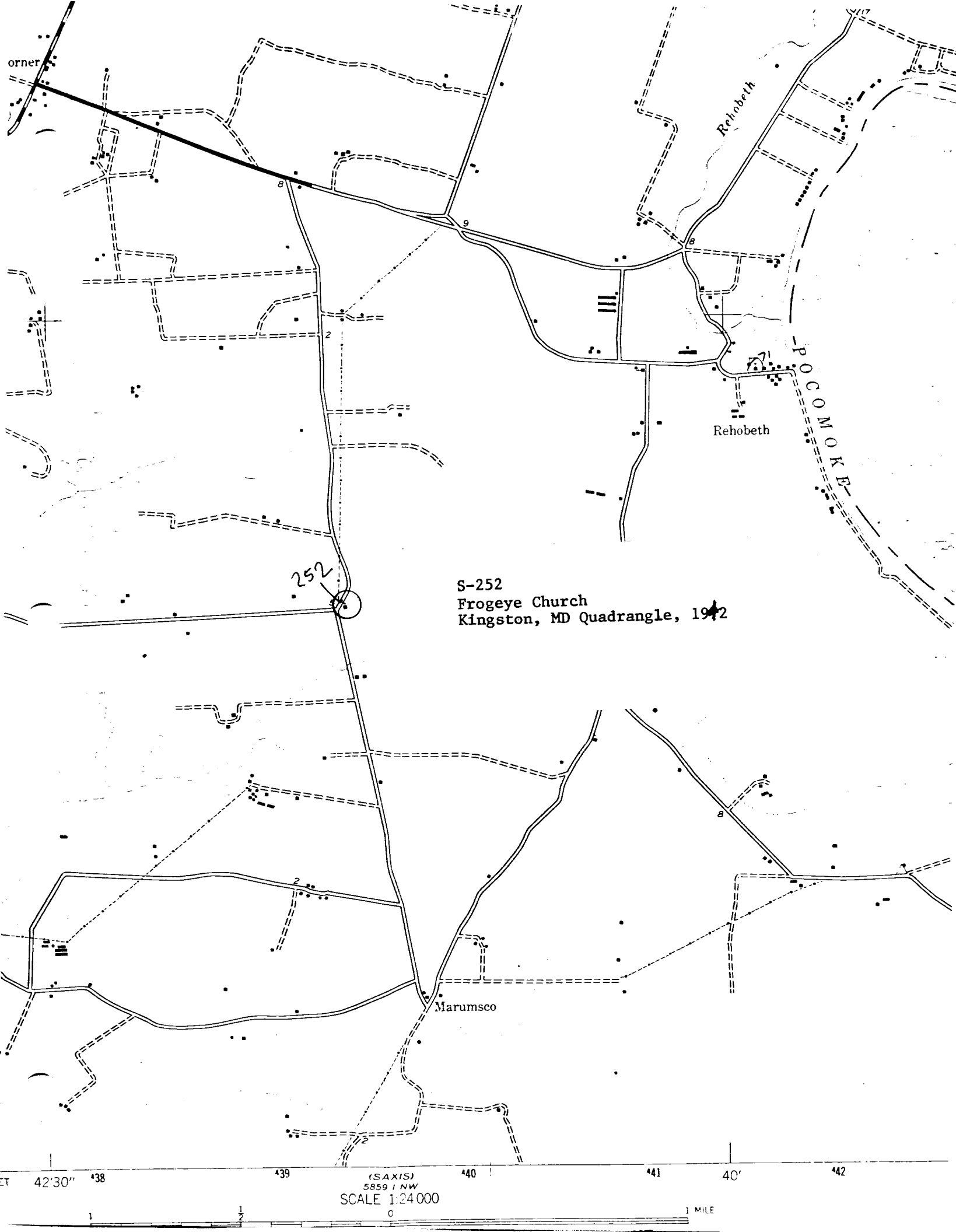
city or town Princess Anne

state Maryland 21853

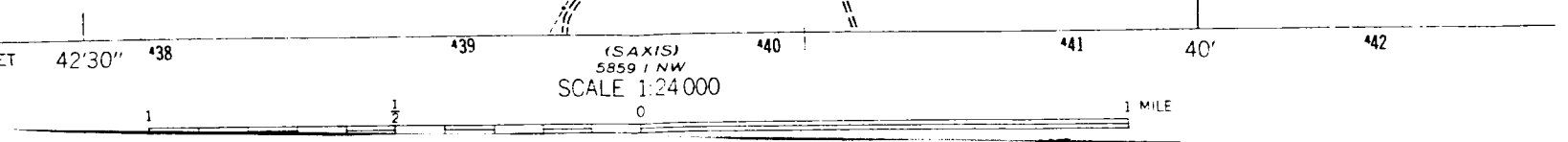
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

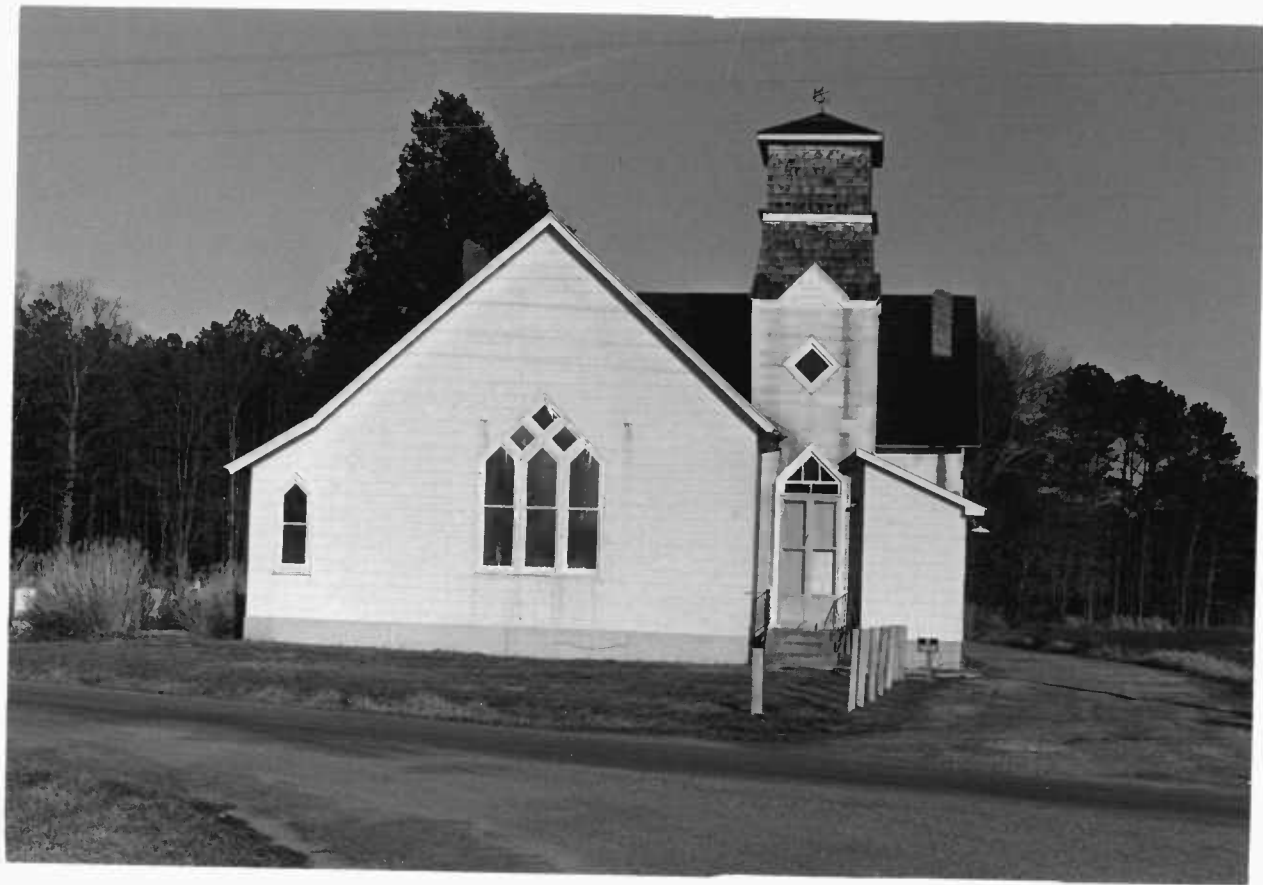
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438



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Frogeye Church
Kingston, MD Quadrangle, 1942





Frogeye Church

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Frogeye, Somerset County

West Elevation

3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Frogeye Church
Frogeye, Somerset County
Northwest Elevation
3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg/Md. Historical Trust

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Frogeye Church
Frogeye, Somerset County
East Elevation
3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart
Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Frogeye Church

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Frogeye, Somerset County

Community Hall

West Elevation

3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart

Neg/Md. Historical Trust



Frogeye Church

S-252

Frogeye, Somerset County

Cemetery

3/84, Photographer, Paul Touart

Neg/Md. Historical Trust